

JAN 05 2009

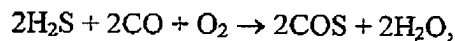
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A COS treatment apparatus for a gasified gas containing H<sub>2</sub>S, H<sub>2</sub>O, O<sub>2</sub>, and CO, which comprises:

a first reactor into which the gasified gas is to be introduced, the gas having a temperature of at least 300°C; and

a second reactor located at a downstream side of a gasified gas flow with respect to the first reactor,

wherein the first reactor comprises an O<sub>2</sub> removal catalyst for accelerating the following reaction:



the O<sub>2</sub> removal catalyst ~~being a~~ consisting of TiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst-carrying and Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> or consisting of TiO<sub>2</sub> and NiO, and

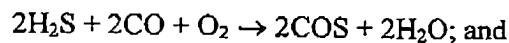
wherein the second reactor comprises a COS conversion catalyst.

2-3. **(Cancelled)**

4. **(Original)** The COS treatment apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said O<sub>2</sub> removal catalyst is located in a higher-temperature region with respect to said COS conversion catalyst.

5. **(Currently Amended)** A COS treatment method for a gasified gas containing H<sub>2</sub>S, H<sub>2</sub>O, O<sub>2</sub>, and CO, the method comprising:

removing O<sub>2</sub> from the gas by using ~~[[a]]~~ an O<sub>2</sub> removal catalyst consisting of TiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst-carrying and Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> or consisting of TiO<sub>2</sub> and NiO at a gas temperature of at least 300°C to accelerate the following reaction:



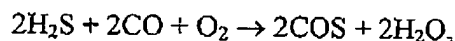
after the removing of O<sub>2</sub> from the gas, converting COS contained in the gas to H<sub>2</sub>S by using a COS conversion catalyst.

**6-7. (Cancelled)**

**8. (Previously Presented)** The COS treatment method according to claim 5, wherein said removing O<sub>2</sub> from the gas is performed at a higher temperature with respect to said converting COS to H<sub>2</sub>S.

**9. (Previously Presented)** A COS treatment apparatus for a gasified gas containing H<sub>2</sub>S, H<sub>2</sub>O, O<sub>2</sub>, and CO, comprising:

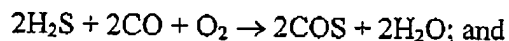
a reactor into which the gasified gas is to be introduced, the reactor comprising a TiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst carrying Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and BaO, wherein the TiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst carrying Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and BaO is an O<sub>2</sub> removal catalyst for accelerating the following reaction:



and wherein the TiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst carrying Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and BaO is a COS conversion catalyst.

**10. (Previously Presented)** A COS treatment method for a gasified gas containing H<sub>2</sub>S, H<sub>2</sub>O, O<sub>2</sub>, and CO, the method comprising:

removing O<sub>2</sub> from the gas by using a TiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst carrying Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and BaO to accelerate the following reaction:



simultaneously converting COS to H<sub>2</sub>S by using the TiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst carrying Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and BaO.